

June 26
1930

CENTENNIAL YEAR

1930

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR

ESTABLISHED IN 1840

"I am going like a lamb to the slaughter; but I am calm as a summer's morning; I have a conscience void of offense towards God, and towards all men. I shall die innocent, and it shall yet be said of me—He was murdered in cold blood."—JOSEPH SMITH.

No. 26, Vol. 92

Thursday, June 26, 1930

Price One Penny

AS A LAMB TO THE SLAUGHTER

TO ELDER REUBEN HEDLOCK, PRESIDING ELDER OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST, IN ENGLAND, AND THE SAINTS IN THE BRITISH EMPIRE

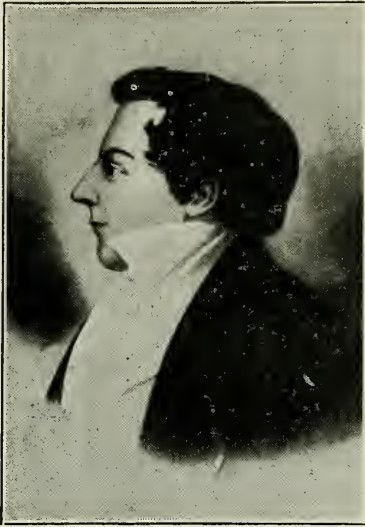
Nauvoo, Illinois, U. S., July 9th, 1844.

BELoved BRETHREN,

As our brother, Elder James Parsons, is about to leave for England, we embrace this as the first opportunity to communicate to you one of the most signal events which has ever transpired in the history of the Church. It has been declared by all the former prophets and apostles that God had reserved unto Himself a peculiar people for the last days, who would not only be zealous in good works, but who should be purified as gold in the furnace seven times, and who would have to endure through faith and patience, in all long-suffering, in meekness, forbearance, love, and every God-like virtue, unto the end as good soldiers, and meet all the scoff and scorn, derision, chiding, buffeting and persecution a wicked world could heap upon them, and even death itself, not counting their lives dear unto themselves, that they might obtain their inheritance in that kingdom of their Heavenly Father, which Jesus, their elder brother, had gone to prepare for them.

It is in this period of time that we are permitted to live. It is at the dawning of that day of days, in which our Heavenly Father is about to usher in that glorious period, when times and seasons shall be changed and earth renewed; when after rumours and

commotions, turmoils, strife, confusion, blood and slaughter, the sword shall be beaten into ploughshares, and peace and truth triumphantly prevail over all the footstool of Jehovah. The day of these events has dawned, although to human view a cloud has overspread the horizon.



JOSEPH SMITH, THE PROPHET
Born on Dec. 23rd, 1805.
Martyred on June 27th, 1844.

You are acquainted with the general history of the Church to which we belong; from our lips and from our pens you have learned its rise and progress; you have heard of the persecution of the Saints in Missouri, and their expulsion from thence, together with their kind reception by the citizens of Illinois, where we have been located for the last four years. For some months past we have been troubled with the wicked proceedings of certain apostates in our midst, who have striven to overthrow the Church, and produce trouble and anguish in the mind of every virtuous being; but their designs

have been frustrated by wise and judicious management on the part of the Prophet and the Saints.

MOB VIOLENCE

These apostates, reckless of all consequences, made a deadly thrust at our overthrow. Leaving the city suddenly, and afterwards by themselves or agents, fired their own buildings, doubtless thinking they would charge it upon the Saints, and by that means excite a mob in the surrounding country, who would fall upon and burn the city; but in this they were disappointed—our vigilant police discovered and extinguished the flames. Their next course was to arrest the Prophet, the Patriarch, and others, by legal process and false pretence, and take them to Carthage, the county seat, for investigation; but they gave themselves up to the requisition of the law on the pledge of Governor Ford that they should be protected from all personal violence, and went voluntarily to Carthage without even the attendance of the officer. Considerable excitement prevailed in the neighbourhood, to allay which they voluntarily gave bonds for their appearance at the next session of the circuit court. Their voluntary and noble conduct should have satisfied every mind; but certain individuals of the basest sort swore out a writ for treason against

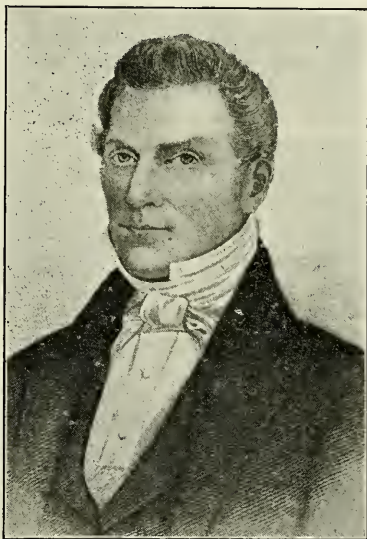
the Prophet Joseph and the Patriarch Hyrum Smith, and they were thrust into jail—without trial, without examination, without any legal course or procedure, on the 25th of June, where they remained till next day, when they were brought before the magistrate that a day might be set for their examination. They were immediately remanded to prison where they remained until the 27th, when but few of their friends were permitted to see them. Between five and six o'clock that day, a company of one hundred fifty or two hundred armed, disguised, and painted men rushed upon the guard who was set to watch the prison door, overpowered them, rushed up stairs into the entry adjoining the room where Joseph and Hyrum Smith were, and John Taylor and Willard Richards sitting with them to keep them company. As soon as the mob arrived at the head of the stairs, they fired through the door and shot Hyrum in the face, who fell instantly, exclaiming, "I am a dead man."

The mob instantly forced open the door with the points of the bayonets, and recommenced an indiscriminate discharge of fire arms upon all in the room. Mr. Taylor, in attempting to leap from the window, was shot and fell back in the chamber. Joseph, in attempting to leap from the same window, was shot and fell on the outside about twenty feet descent. The mob gathered instantly around him and again shot him.

Joseph and Hyrum received each four balls, and were killed instantly. Elder John Taylor received four balls in his left wrist and left leg, and is doing well and is likely to recover. Dr. Richards was marked on the left ear and cheek—otherwise remained unharmed. The whole scene occupied only two or three minutes, when the mob

fled rapidly towards Warsaw. The bodies of the murdered men were removed to Nauvoo on the 28th, and buried on the 29th. This event has caused the deepest mourning among the Saints, but they have not attempted to avenge the outrage.

The Governor has promised that the whole treacherous proceedings shall be investigated according to law, and the Saints have agreed to leave it with him and with God to avenge their



HYRUM SMITH, THE PATRIARCH

Born on Feb. 9th, 1800.

Martyred on June 27th, 1844.

wrongs in this matter. There has been considerable excitement in the surrounding country, which is now in a great measure allayed.

The action of the Saints has been of the most pacific kind, remembering that God has said, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay."

For further particulars we refer you to the statements of Messrs. Reid and Woods, and other statements in the *Nauroo Neighbor* which we send with this. And now, beloved brethren, we say to you all, as we say to the Saints here, be still and know that God reigns. This is one of those fiery trials that is to try the Saints of the last days. These servants of God have gone to heaven by fire, the fire of an ungodly mob. Like the prophets of ancient days, they lived as long as the world would receive them; and this is one furnace in which the Saints are to be tried: To have their leaders cut off from their midst, and not be permitted to avenge their blood. God has said vengeance is mine; I have not called mine elders to fight their battles; I will fight their battles for them; and we know assuredly that He will do it in His own due time, and we have only to wait in patience and prayer the fulfilment of promise.

This event is one of the most foul and damnable that ever disgraced the earth—having no parallel in time. Innocent men imprisoned without law, without justice, and murdered in cold blood in the enlightened nineteenth century, in an enlightened country, in the open daylight! It will call down the wrath and indignation of all nations upon the perpetrators of the horrid deed, and will prove the truth of the saying, "the blood of martyrs is the seed of the Church." They died for the word of God, and the testimony of Jesus Christ.

WORK WILL CONTINUE

God has not left His Church without witnesses: As in former days, so shall it be in the latter days. When one falls, another will rise to occupy a similar station. Our Heavenly Father has always had a leader to His people, and always will have; and the gates of hell can never prevail against the chosen of heaven.

The murder of Joseph will not stop the work; it will not stop the temple; it will not stop the gathering; it will not stop the honest in heart from believing the truth and obeying it; but it is a proof of the revelations we have received from heaven through him. He has sealed his testimony with his blood. He was willing to die; and desired only to live for the sake of the brethren.

Two better men than Joseph and Hyrum Smith never lived. Two better men, God never made. The memorial of their godly lives is embalmed—printed with indelible ink in the memory of every honest heart who knew their upright walk and conversation. But they are taken away by the hands of assassins and of

the foolish things of the earth; God will raise up others to comfort and lead His people, and not one item of His word can fail. Jerusalem must be rebuilt, and Zion must be redeemed; the earth be cleansed from blood by fire; Jesus return unto His own, and all who shall continue faithful unto the end shall rest in everlasting peace and blessedness.

We alone, of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, are here at this time to write to you; the remaining ten are in the eastern states preaching the Gospel, and we expect them soon to return; and, as soon as God will, we will write to you again.

EXHORTED TO GOOD WORKS

Proceed onward with all your labours as though nothing had happened; only preach Joseph martyred for his religion instead of living, and God will pour out His Spirit upon you, and hasten His work from this time.

Believe not every spirit, but try the spirits; believe not every report, for every false rumour that men and demons can invent is set afloat to gull the world. What we have told you by letter and papers is true; but time will not permit to tell you every particular now.

Be humble, prayerful, watchful, and let not the adversary get any advantage of any of you, and may the choicest blessings of Israel's God rest upon you and abide with you that you may endure faithful in all tribulation and affliction, and be prepared to be gathered into Mount Zion, and enter into celestial glory, is the earnest prayer of your brethren in the new and everlasting covenant. Amen.

WILLARD RICHARDS
JOHN TAYLOR.

P. S.—We would have said that while Joseph was on his way to Carthage, and on the prairie, he said to friends around him: "I am going like a lamb to the slaughter, but my mind is calm as the summer's morning. I have a conscience void of offence towards God and towards all men." Joseph also said to his friends, "I am going voluntarily to give myself up, and it shall be said of me, that I *was murdered in cold blood.*"

—*Millennial Star*, Vol. 5, pages 76-79.

THE EVERLASTING OPPOSITION TO TRUTH

YET some will say, if these men were sent of God and taught the principles of righteousness, they would not suffer persecution in this enlightened age; but there is one important truth that irresistibly forces itself upon us, which is, that the light and intelligence communicated to the human family through the

servants of the Lord in every age of the world, was always lightly esteemed by the mass, and at all times met with the most determined opposition from those whose prepossessed opinions and forms of doctrine it came in contact with, and during the lives of inspired men, they were hated of the world, because they were not of it. God having chosen them out of it to reprove the world of sin, and lay before them the principles of righteousness, to prepare the earth for the hour of judgment, when all must stand at the bar of God and be judged according to the deeds done in the body, by that man whom He hath ordained, whereof He hath given us assurance in that He hath raised Him from the dead.

Jesus unfolds the secret, and gives us the reason why His servants are hated and persecuted; it is this: He has promised to give them the spirit of truth and revelation whom the world cannot receive, and when men are in possession of it, they begin to reprove the people of the world for their sins, and call upon them to repent and obey the plan of salvation that God has sent; and when the truth is laid before them with authority, and they find they cannot impede its progress with argument, or by circulating lies and slanderous reports, they, rather than repent and yield obedience to its mandates, rise up in mobs and destroy the servants of God, thereby thinking to put a stop to the spread of what they would fain call delusion and false doctrine, but which is in reality the truth of heaven, the plan of salvation. But are the purposes of the Almighty thus to be frustrated by weak, designing mortals? Is the plan of salvation to be prohibited from being offered to the children of men? Is truth to be trampled under foot by falsehood and error, and is the work to be annihilated by the destruction of the servants of the Lord? No, verily, no! echoes from the throne of Jehovah to the souls of those martyrs who were slain for the testimony which they bore to the children of men in every age of the world, saying, "Rest for a little season until your fellow servants shall be slain as ye were." Yes, rest until He whose right it is to reign, break the bands of death, and unlock the prison doors, and let the captive go free; and shall by His voice say unto the righteous, "Come forth, and be clothed upon with immortality and eternal life, and reign on earth with your Redeemer."

He who has all power in heaven and on earth yet lives and reigns, and is able to save all who come unto Him; and although Satan may rage, and the people imagine a vain thing and slay the servants of the Lord, the truth still remains, the plan of salvation still the same, and they who are slain for the word of God and for the testimony of Jesus are taken from this theatre of action nearer to the throne of Jehovah, to mingle in the councils of heaven, and cry unto the Lord to avenge their blood on them who dwell on the earth, and in the morning of the first resurrec-

tion will come forth clothed with life and immortality, and be crowned kings and priests in the presence of God.

Therefore I exhort all the Saints in Britain, and especially those of the Priesthood, to be faithful, to practice virtue and holiness, and set a godly example before all men; be honest and true to your engagements; deal honourably in all your business transactions; put away from your midst evil speaking, wrath, envy, malice and hypocrisy; cultivate peace and union one with another.

Let the servants of the Lord lift up their voices, and call upon the inhabitants of the earth to repent and turn to God, for the time has arrived when the Church, and the principles of the same, can no longer remain in obscurity, but will be sought after by the honest in heart, and will be investigated by thousands who have not as yet heard of them.

I remain dear brethren, your humble servant, for Christ's sake,

REUBEN HEDLOCK.

—*Millennial Star*, Vol. 5, pages 61-2.

THE KEYS OF AUTHORITY REMAIN

AN EPISTLE OF THE TWELVE

To THE Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in Nauvoo and all the world. Greeting.

Beloved Brethren:

Forasmuch as the Saints have been called to suffer deep affliction and persecution, and also to mourn the loss of our beloved Prophet and also our Patriarch, who have suffered a cruel martyrdom for the testimony of Jesus, having voluntarily yielded themselves to cruel murderers who had sworn to take their lives, and thus, like good shepherds, have laid down their lives for the sheep, therefore it becomes necessary for us to address you at this time on several important subjects.

You are now without a prophet present with you in the flesh to guide you; but you are not without Apostles, who hold the keys of power, to seal on earth that which shall be sealed in heaven and to preside over all the affairs of the Church in all the world; being still under the direction of the same God, and being dictated by the same Spirit, having the same manifestations of the Holy Ghost to dictate all the affairs of the Church in all the world, to build up the kingdom upon the foundation that the Prophet Joseph has laid, who still holds the keys of this last dispensation, and will hold them to all eternity, as a king and priest unto the most high God, ministering in heaven, on earth, or among the spirits of the departed dead, as seemeth good to Him who sent him.

(Continued on page 475)

THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 1930

EDITORIAL

JOSEPH SMITH

LATTER-DAY SAINTS worship one God only—the Creator of heaven and earth, the Father of the spirits of men. The plan provided by our Heavenly Father for the salvation of mankind holds as its central figure, Jesus the Christ, the Only Begotten of the Father. Jesus died that we might live eternally in association with our earth-won bodies. He, our Elder Brother, holds the commission of leadership, from His Father, in the consummation of the Plan of Redemption. We address the Father in Jesus' name.

The Lord inspires all men, through the whispering of the Holy Spirit, to advance the cause of truth. Men who are especially and divinely called to help establish righteousness are known as prophets. Some of these have authority conferred upon them to perform certain necessary labours pertaining to the Plan. Prophets are the mighty teachers and authorized leaders of the Kingdom of God on earth. They are but men, but divinely inspired and authorized men, mouthpieces and representatives of the Lord.

Joseph Smith was a prophet of God; a man called to divine labour. It was his mission to reestablish the Church of Christ in the last days—these days. He received knowledge and authority for this work from his Heavenly Father. Joseph Smith stands at the head of this dispensation, and will ever do so, even as other prophets stand at the head of the work accomplished by them for humanity. A good man was Joseph Smith, a prophet like unto the greatest of the past. But, he was a man; he is not worshipped; but, he is beloved by those who have tasted of his truth; esteemed by all who value fidelity and purity and unselfishness; looked upon as an ideal by hosts who are striving for righteousness.

Eighty-six years have passed since the cruel murder of Joseph Smith and his saintly brother Hyrum. The years bring slow but sure verdicts. The records have been searched, hateful venom has spouted untruth, to find the "Mormon" prophet at fault. But, no fault has been found in him. To-day, the worst that opponents can say of him is that he was self-deceived! Cold logic, which reasons from effects to causes, and notes the fruits of the Prophet's labours, can not accept the hypothesis of self-deception. Joseph Smith stands unexplained, except upon his own claim:

That he was taught of the Lord—an instrument through whom the Almighty reestablished His Church in the latter days.

Joseph Smith sought for truth ; lived for truth ; died for truth. All honour be to his memory.—W.

EMISSARIES OF TRUTH

THERE is always a spirit of resentment in the hearts of the wicked when called to repentance by servants of the Most High God. The children of Israel rejected and slew their prophets. The Saviour and Redeemer of the world was Himself crucified by His own people, who deplored the acts of their forefathers in stoning the prophets, yet killed the greatest of all, the Son of God.

History often repeats itself. Such was the case on June 27th, 1844, when the two brothers, Joseph and Hyrum Smith, the first prophet and the patriarch of this latter day Church, were martyred by treacherous men, who had been incited to malicious deeds by supposed ministers of the Lord.

Joseph and Hyrum were dearly loved by the righteous ; the wicked hated and reviled them ; the casual and truthful observer, while admitting their greatness, could not understand them, as no explanation could be found for their superior wisdom, marvelous ability, and never-failing foresight. Joseph's enemies heaped upon him every charge to be found in the statutes of the state and nation. When they realized the law would not convict an innocent man, they carried out their threats and desires by powder and ball.

While on his way to Carthage and as he viewed Nauvoo, the Beautiful, for the last time, Joseph told his brethren that he was going to his death ; he knew the giving of his life was necessary to the great cause of Truth. He never claimed to be a great man, nor did he attribute his powers and teachings to be his own. In all humility, he acknowledged the hand of God as his sustaining influence. He did not seek honour and glory for himself, but gave all praise to God as the Author of all. In some of the revelations which he received, he was rebuked. Yet he was called an imposter, a deceiver ! Those are not the methods of a man who attempts delusion.

Those who sought to destroy Joseph's work denounced him as the vilest and basest of men. His followers spoke of him always in the highest of terms, regarding him as a true example of honesty and purity. He was never self-righteous, and he realized his weaknesses. But the work he was instrumental in restoring continued to grow and progress after his death, and, strange as it may seem to those not of the faith, has succeeded in producing a happy, healthy, peaceful, prosperous, brotherly, honest, in-

tellectual and moral people. Such would never be the fruits of a corrupt, degenerate and designing founder.

Many attempts have been made to explain the work of this marvelous man, Joseph Smith. Born in the humblest of surroundings, he has come to be known throughout the earth by hundreds of thousands of honest-hearted people for good. His work has stood the attacks of intellectual giants for a hundred years. Present day criticism is merely the rehashing of charges refuted a thousand times over. In fact, new light and truth is repeatedly substantiating the teachings of the Prophet. Every day evidence is being discovered by disinterested persons, proving that the Book of Mormon is all that it is claimed to be.

Then what should we say of Joseph and Hyrum Smith, who endured all manner of persecution and even death for what they believed? The very fact that they sealed their testimony with their blood should be evidence enough of their sincerity and integrity, and when their work is taken into consideration, one is compelled to regard them as men of God.

WILLIAM D. CALLISTER.

THE TRIUMPH OF FAITH

THE enemies of truth and righteousness thought that by taking the life of Joseph Smith, the leader and president of the new Church, the movement would die out, and the Saints would wander to and fro, from leader to leader, thus bringing disintegration. However, the act only served to strengthen the conviction of Joseph's followers that he was a true prophet, and that Satan was marshalling his hosts and entering into the hearts of men in his determination to overthrow the work of God.

The Saints mourned deeply the loss of their leader. But they committed no acts of retaliation against their assailants, leaving judgment and vengeance to God. They firmly resolved to be of greater service to the Lord.

Prior to the Prophet's death, he fully explained to the Twelve the succession of authority in case his life be taken. This was well understood even among those presiding in distant mission fields, as is recorded in the *Millennial Star* during this time. With the exception of one member, the Quorum of Twelve remained faithful. But vain ambition and sin had crept in among a few of the leaders of the Church both before and after the Prophet's death. They led away a small minority of dissatisfied members.

However, the majority rallied around those holding the proper authority, and listened to their counsel and advice. Renewed effort was made to complete the temple in Nauvoo, and to spread the Gospel in distant places. All had the conviction that the

work would not be thrown down although such depressing conditions prevailed.

We owe much to those stalwart Saints of God. In the face of adversity, they remained undaunted. Had they been weak in character, we would not be enjoying the blessings of the Gospel now within our reach. Our praises rise to God in their behalf.

WILLIAM D. CALLISTER.

THE KEYS OF AUTHORITY REMAIN

(Concluded from page 471)

Let no man presume for a moment that his place will be filled by another; for, remember he stands in his own place, and always will; and the Twelve Apostles of this dispensation stand in their own place, and always will, both in time and in eternity, to minister, preside, and regulate the affairs of the whole Church.

How vain are the imaginations of the children of men to presume for a moment that the slaughter of one, two, or a hundred of the leaders of this Church could destroy an organization, so perfect in itself, and so harmoniously arranged that it will stand while one member of it is left alive upon the earth. Brethren, be not alarmed; for if the Twelve should be taken away, still there are powers and offices in existence which will bear the kingdom of God triumphantly victorious in all the world. This Church may have prophets many, and apostles many, but they are all to stand in due time in their proper organization, under the direction of those who hold the keys.

The United States and adjoining provinces will be immediately organized by the Twelve into proper districts, in a similar manner as they have already done in England and Scotland, and High Priests will be appointed over each district, to preside over the same, and to call quarterly conferences for the regulation and representation of the branches included in the same and for the furtherance of the Gospel; and also to take measure for a yearly representation in a general conference. This will save the trouble and confusion of the running to and fro of the Elders. Detect false doctrine and false teachers, and make every Elder accountable to the conference in which he may happen to labour. Bishops will also be appointed in the larger branches, to attend to the management of the temporal funds, such as tithings and funds for the poor, according to the revelations of God, and to be judges in Israel.

The Gospel in its fulness and purity must now roll forth through every neighbourhood of this wide-spread country, and to all the world; and millions will awake to its truths and obey its pre-

cepts ; and the kingdoms of this world will become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ.

Now, dear brethren, to conclude our present communication, we would exhort you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ to be humble and faithful before God and before all the people, and give no occasion for any man to speak evil of you ; but preach the Gospel in its simplicity and purity, and practice righteousness, and seek to establish the influence of truth, peace and love among mankind, and in so doing the Lord will bless you and make you a blessing to all people.

You may expect to hear from us again.

BRIGHAM YOUNG,

President of the Twelve.

Nauvoo, August 15th, 1844.

—*Millennial Star*, Vol. 5, pages 93-4.

JOSEPH'S EDUCATION

(JOSEPH SMITH SKETCHES—No. 8)

THE ten years that followed the First Vision were a period of preparation for the great work that Joseph was to do. Perhaps he was chosen in his childhood so that the necessary lessons could be fixed upon an impressionable mind.

During these years, Joseph was obliged to earn his living by manual labour chiefly on the farm. This, together with the plain fare of the country side, helped develop his body and to give him the physical strength necessary to perform the arduous tasks connected with the reestablishment of the Church of Christ. Physical stamina was required to endure the hardships of persecution, pioneering and preaching, the foci of early Church history.

Deep thoughts occupied the boy from the time of the First Vision. The view of the condition of the world given him, he could weigh and consider unhindered the free environment of open country, forests, hill and lake. His Bible, a constant companion, and long discussions in an honest Bible-wise family, gave materials for hours of meditation. The incessant and virulent persecution heaped upon him provoked reflections usually beyond youthful years. He mingled freely with youths of his own age as he had a jovial, cheery disposition, and thus remained in touch with humanity for whom the message was intended. In this manner passed the first four years after the First Vision. The boy grew rapidly in body and mind.

The second period of training for his life's work began on the night of September 21st, 1823, when he was nearly eighteen years of age. While in the act of praying to the Lord, in his bed

chamber, in the early night, a heavenly messenger appeared in brilliant light by his bedside. This messenger declared himself to be the ancient Nephite prophet Moroni, come to instruct him concerning the mission to be placed upon him.

During the long night, Moroni explained in careful detail, the work that the Lord was about to institute among men. The Church of Christ was to be reestablished. Joseph had been chosen to the leadership of the restoration of the true Gospel of Jesus Christ. The prophecies of old, notably of Isaiah, Joel and Malachi, had reference to this day. Coming events, pertaining especially to the last days, were foretold and pictured. It was a comprehensive, logical discussion of the Gospel of Salvation, past, present and future.

Perhaps the most surprising part of the messenger's message was that a record of the ancient inhabitants of America, engraved on plates of gold, was buried in a nearby hill, clearly described, and that, since the record contained the fulness of the Gospel, Joseph was to secure these plates and translate the writing upon them for publication to the world. The messenger outlined to the astonished but interested young man the history of ancient America.

Three times, during that night did the Angel Moroni repeat, almost word for word, the message that he had been sent to deliver. Thereby it was fixed indelibly upon Joseph's memory. It was pedagogy of a high order. When morning arrived the young man was physically weary from the whole night vigil, but spiritually he was refreshed.

The next day, as if to make assurance doubly sure, the angel appeared again to Joseph and went over the same message, information and instructions. That day in obedience to the heavenly messenger, he told the whole story to his father, and later the whole family.

On the same day he proceeded to the hill Cumorah, as shown to him in vision, and uncovered the buried plates and the accompanying Urin and Thummim and a breastplate. The messenger appeared again, stated that Joseph could not yet take possession of the plates, but was to return to the same spot on each 22nd of September, until four years hence, when, if he continued worthy, the plates would be delivered to him.

Joseph followed the instructions literally. On the 22nd of September of each year he met the angel on hill Cumorah. There he received information and instruction of the most varied kind, preparatory to the establishing and conducting the Church to be restored. There is some evidence also, that the young man at other times communicated with the heavenly messenger and was instructed as to his duties.

This period, from September 22nd, 1823, to September 22nd, 1827, was one of rapid and large education for the coming prophet.

He had an angelic teacher; he kept himself fit for understanding; he grew rapidly in power of mind and spirit.

There is a glimpse of this period of Joseph's education. He had been permitted to confide to his family all the things told him. His mother writes:

From this time forth, Joseph continued to receive instructions from the Lord, and we continued to get the children together every evening, for the purpose of listening while he gave us a relation of the same. . . . During our evening conversations, Joseph would occasionally give us some of the most amusing recitals that could be imagined. He would describe the ancient inhabitants of this continent, their dress, mode of traveling, and the animals upon which they rode; their cities, their buildings, with every particular; their mode of warfare; and also their religious worship.

On September 22nd, 1827, when he was twenty-two years old, nearly eight years after the First Vision, Joseph received the plates. During these years, he had learned much. He had studied the Bible, kept abreast, under frontier conditions, with the events of the day; he had been taught and drilled by a teacher sent out from the presence of God; his courage had been strengthened by the bitter persecution of neighbours; his faith increased by the vision of the things to come. A man well informed, wise and matured beyond his years was Joseph Smith when he received the Book of Mormon plates from the Angel Moroni.—W.

SCOTTISH DISTRICT CONFERENCE

THE happiness brought by the Gospel and thanksgiving to the Lord for His blessings were manifested at the Scottish District Conference held at Glasgow on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 6th-8th. The prepared programs effectively rendered at the Sunday sessions contributed much to the success and impressiveness of the conference. Suitable musical items and addresses by local members, containing the anniversary spirit, were highly inspirational. President Lund of the British Mission delivered eloquent and forceful discourses on subjects pertaining to the Gospel and its history.

Views of Salt Lake and the beauties of Southern Utah were witnessed and enjoyed by a large number of Church members and their friends on Friday. On Saturday evening, pageants which told the story of the Gospel were produced by the various branches.

Valuable instruction pertaining to missionary work was given by President and Sister Lund to the traveling Elders at the missionary meeting held on Saturday Morning. Each bore witness to the divinity of this great cause.

The missionaries and mission officers attending the conference—

shown in the accompanying picture—spent Monday visiting the beautiful Loch Lomond.

JOHN A. FREESTONE, District Clerk.



MISSIONARIES AT SCOTTISH CONFERENCE

FRONT ROW, left to right: Elders Wesley D. Amott and Junius E. Driggs, British Mission Office; British Mission President A. William Lund; Sister Josephine B. Lund, President British Mission Relief Societies; President William M. Faulds, and Elders John A. Freestone (District Clerk), and J. Ferrin Gurney, Scottish District; second row: Elder Jules Gillette, Scottish District; Elder Howard A. Thorne, Newcastle District; Elder Clarence V. Bigler, Birmingham District; Elder John W. Adams, London District; Elder William S. Costley, Scottish District; Elder H. Wendell Jacob, Liverpool District; Elder O. Sherwin Webb, Scottish District; third row: Elder Alton Manghn, Newcastle District; President John L. Clarke, London District; President Ferrell N. Beckstead, Ulster District; Elders DeVon Y. Stewart, William O. Tolman, Frank S. Campbell and Lewis A. Phelps, Scottish District.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

BOOK OF MORMON DEPARTMENT.

July 6. Lesson 24. Prophecy Concerning the Land of Promise. Text: Sunday School Lesson No. 24. Objective: To teach that the ancient prediction concerning America's supremacy is now recognized by the world.

July 13. Lesson 25. The Land of Promise Foretold. Text: Sunday School Lesson No. 25. Objective: To teach that America has fulfilled the prophecy concerning its place among the nations.

July 20. Lesson 26. America—The Land of Promise; choice above all other lands. Text: Sunday School Lesson No. 26. Objective: To teach that the Book of Mormon predictions concerning America's superior place in the world are now being fulfilled.

July 27. Lesson 27. History of Spain and America. Text: Sunday School Lesson No. 27. Objective: To teach that Spain's decay is in fulfilment of the Book of Mormon prophecy.

OLD TESTAMENT DEPARTMENT.

July 6. Lesson 22. Moses (Continued). Text: Sunday School Lesson No. 22; Exodus 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11. Objective: To show the fruitlessness of all human efforts to frustrate the purposes of the Lord.

July 13. Lesson 23. The Passover. Text: Sunday School Lesson No. 23; Exodus 4: 22-23; 11; 12: 1-36. Objective: To show how out of great events customs are instituted or adapted, to commemorate or teach significant principles or doctrines: To stress such lessons as obedience, the ultimate triumph of God's promises, or dependence upon God's promises.

July 20. Lesson 24. Moses (Continued). Israel in the Wilderness. Text: Sunday School Lesson No. 24; Exodus 15, 16, 17, and 18; Numbers 14: 23. Objective: Show that the children of Israel proved by their own actions their inability to comprehend the purposes of God; that they were forced to wander in the wilderness because they failed in spite of miracles and evidence of God's power.

July 27. Lesson 25. Moses (Continued). The Ten Commandments. Text: Sunday School Lesson No. 25; Exodus 19, 20. Objective: To show that rules of action or conduct are basic to life in political or social order.

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.

July 6. Lesson 71. Hezekiah Comforted. Text: Sunday School Lesson No. 71; II Kings 20: 1-12; Isaiah 38. Objective: "Ask and ye shall receive."

July 13. A Picture Lesson. (Refer to the May, 1930, *Instructor*, page 317.)

July 20. Lesson 72. The Captive Princes. Text: Sunday School Lesson No. 72; Daniel 1. Objective: Simple, proper food makes for stronger bodies, keener minds and happier dispositions.

July 27. Lesson 73. The Forgotten Dream. Text: Sunday School Lesson No. 73; Daniel 2. Objective: "Ask and ye shall receive."—From *The Instructor*.

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